

PROCLAMATION YEAR OF THE COUNTY FAIR 2011

WHEREAS, the first American county fair was held in York, Pennsylvania in 1765, when descendants of William Penn decided to hold a "competition" between farmers in a friendly manner and award prizes to the best animals; and

WHEREAS, fairs of all sizes and types have become a part of the fabric of America, and have been of immeasurable value to our way of life; and

WHEREAS, fairs have been a part of North Dakota for more than 120 years and have contributed to the growth of the state's livestock, crop and equipment industries, as well as provided educational, entertainment and leadership opportunities for our youth; and

WHEREAS, fairs and local celebrations help enhance the quality of life for North Dakota's citizens; and

WHEREAS, North Dakotans are encouraged to recognize county fairs and the value they bring to our way of life, our history and the well-being of our state and nation.

NOW, THEREFORE, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim 2011, the **YEAR OF THE COUNTY FAIR** in the state of North Dakota.

John Hoeven

Governor

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger Secretary of State

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